

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims and substitute them for the pending claims with the same numbers. Please cancel 31 without prejudice.

Claim 1 (Previously Amended):

An intravascular stent including a longitudinal axis and a plurality of connected cylindrical rings, comprising:

each ring having a plurality of crests such that a plurality of generally linear bar arms are connected in-between a plurality of nonlinear bar arms so that adjacent linear and nonlinear bar arms define the crests;

wherein the stent includes a longitudinal pattern of a repeated series of at least three adjacent ring portions configured in substantially the same orientation throughout the stent.

Claim 2 (Original):

The stent of claim 1, wherein the plurality of nonlinear bar arms include a plurality of primary nonlinear bar arms and a plurality of secondary nonlinear bar arms.

Claim 3 (Original):

The stent of claim 2, wherein the primary nonlinear bar arms are generally sinusoidal.

Claim 4 (Original)

The stent of claim 2, wherein the secondary nonlinear bar arms have an undulating member.

Claim 5 (Original):

The stent of claim 2, wherein each ring comprises a plurality of ring portions shaped like figure-eights.

Claim 6 (Original):

The stent of claim 5, wherein the ring portions alternate between a first figure-eight portion and a second figure-eight portion, with the first figure-eight portion defined by a proximal portion of the primary nonlinear bar arm, the linear bar arm, and a distal portion of the secondary nonlinear bar arm; and

the second figure-eight portion being adjacent to the first figure-eight portion, defined by a proximal portion of the secondary nonlinear bar arm, the linear bar arm, and a distal portion of the primary nonlinear bar arm.

Claim 7 (Original):

The stent of claim 2, wherein the primary nonlinear bar arms and the secondary nonlinear bar arms have a first and second axis respectively.

Claim 8 (Original):

The stent of claim 7, wherein the first and second axes are parallel.

Claim 9 (Original):

The stent of claim 2, wherein the rings are connected in a staggered connection pattern.

Claim 10 (Original):

The stent of claim 9, wherein a first ring is connected to a second ring by connecting links having a proximal end extending from distal crests formed by the secondary non-linear bar arms of the first ring, to proximal crests formed by the primary nonlinear bar arms of the second ring; and

the second ring is connected to a third ring by the connecting links joined at distal crests formed by the primary nonlinear bar arms of the second ring, to proximal crests of the secondary nonlinear bar arms of the third ring;

whereby the staggered connection pattern is repeated.

Claim 11 (Original):

The stent of claim 10, wherein the connecting links are straight.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended):

The stent of claim 10 [11], wherein the connecting links are nonlinear.

Claim 13 (Previously Amended):

An endovascular prosthesis having a plurality of rings, comprising:
linear bar arms connected in-between primary non-linear bar arms and secondary non-linear bar arms such that the adjacent linear and the primary nonlinear bar arms, and

the adjacent linear and the secondary nonlinear bar arms define crests within the plurality of rings;

ring portions shaped like a figure-eight;

connecting links that connect the plurality of rings in a staggered configuration;

wherein the prosthesis includes a longitudinal pattern of a repeated series of at least three adjacent figure-eight portions configured in substantially the same orientation throughout the prosthesis.

Claim 14 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the primary nonlinear bar arms and the secondary nonlinear bar arms are undulating.

Claim 15 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 14, wherein the primary nonlinear bar arms are sinusoidal.

Claim 16 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the ring portions alternate between a first figure-eight portion and a second figure-eight portion, with the first figure-eight portion defined by a proximal portion of the primary nonlinear bar arm, the linear bar arm, and a distal portion of the secondary nonlinear bar arm; and

the second figure-eight portion being adjacent to the first figure-eight portion defined by a proximal portion of the secondary nonlinear bar arm, the linear bar arm, and a distal portion of the primary nonlinear bar arm.

Claim 17 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 13, wherein the primary nonlinear bar arms and the secondary nonlinear bar arms have a first and second axis respectively.

Claim 18 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 17, wherein the first and second axes are parallel.

Claim 19 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 13, wherein a first ring is connected to a second ring by the connecting links having a proximal end extending from distal crests formed by the secondary non-linear bar arms of the first ring, to proximal crests formed by the primary nonlinear bar arms of the second ring; and

the second ring is connected to a third ring by the connecting links joined at distal crests formed by the primary nonlinear bar arms of the second ring, to proximal crests of the secondary nonlinear bar arms of the third ring;

whereby the staggered configuration is repeated.

Claim 20 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 19, wherein the connecting links are straight.

Claim 21 (Original):

The endovascular prosthesis of claim 19, wherein the connecting links are nonlinear.

Claims 22-29 (Cancelled)

Claim 30 (Currently Amended):

An intravascular stent, comprising:

a plurality of connected rings each having a plurality of crests;
at least some of the rings having figure-eight-shaped ring portions;
means for forming at least some of the crests;

wherein at least a section of the stent includes a longitudinal pattern of a repeated series of at least three adjacent figure-eight portions configured is substantially the same orientation wherein the crest forming means includes linear bar arms connected in-between non-linear bar arms so that adjacent linear and non-linear bar arms define the crests.

Claim 31 (Canceled)